Serving Marine Corps Air Station New River and Jacksonville, N.C. www.newriver.usmc.mil Feb. 22, 2006 Vol. 45 No. 4

Have guns, will travel



HML/A-269 Marines pick up, move out in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

SEE PAGE 3

Tragedy in Horn of Africa



Eight Marines perish when CH-53E crashes during training

SEE PAGE 7

Osprey past, present



Decades-long program reaches milestone with 'Thunder Chickens'

SEE PAGES 14,15





Command Message

The Staff Noncommissioned Officers' Wives Club will host a Mardi Gras party Feb. 24 at the Station SNCO Club.

The party will go from 7 p.m. to midnight and is open to all active duty servicemembers, Department of Defense personnel and their guests.

For tickets or information call 449-5396 or 449-6707 or e-mail MardiGras1@charter.net.

By order of the commanding officer, MCAS New River, the parking lot behind the Station Dining Facility is closed between the hours of 4 a.m. and 8 p.m., except to food service Marines and contracted civilian employees who work in the building.

Motorcycle Safety
Foundation Rider's Course has seats available for the Feb. 22 and Feb. 23 class.

Those interested in attending the course can stop by the Station Safety Office, AS-211, 2nd deck, or call 449-5440, 449-5437 or 449-7913.

There will be a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Night at the Staff Noncommissioned Officers' Club every third Friday of each month.

The first cards will be dealt at 6:30 p.m. and play ends at midnight.

There are 100 seats available and tickets cost \$20.

Prizes are awarded to those who come in 1st through 5th place.

Community

The II MEF Wounded Warrior Spouses' Support Group meets every third Wednesday of each month.

The meetings start at 6:30 p.m. at the Key Volunteer Center, Building H-14, and are open to all Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. and Marine Corps Air Station New River families.

For questions or information, call Shannon Maxwell at 347-4450, Becky Klepper at 353-4625 or Allison Starla at 938-1230.

The New River Tax Center is open to provide free tax service to military personnel until April 17.

Visit Building AS-232 or call 449-7400 for more information.

The Kinston 8000: A Run for the River race will take place March 26 at 8:30 a.m.

Marines interested in running the race can call Tim Knobeloch at (252) 939-3336.

Education

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is looking for students who qualify for academic year 2006-2007 scholarships.

Scholarships range annually from \$500 to \$10,000.

Students qualify if they are the son or daughter of a Marine on active duty or Reserve, son or daughter of a former Marine or Marine Reservist or son or daughter of an active duty, reserve or former U.S. Navy Corpsman who is serving or has served with the Marine Corps.

Graduating high school seniors' application submissions are due by March 1, 2006 and all other students are due by April 15, 2006.

Application forms are available to download from www.mcsf.org.

In the Corps

Active Duty Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Fund Drive kicks off March 1.

Fund drive representatives have been identified and will begin training soon.

The team of representatives will undergo fund drive practices to ensure they build on last year's success.

Donators can expect higher visibility and more opportunities to give this year with programs like

the "Round Up," as well as incentive-based donating.

Those interested in donating before March 1, or have questions about the drive, can contact Capt. Charles Hart at 449-5446.

The Counterintelligence and Human Intelligence Company is looking for select Marines to join their organization.

Those interested must be an unrestricted 1st term male, corporal or sergeant within one year of their EAS, must possess a GT score of 110 or higher, must be a volunteer, must be a U.S. citizen, must be at least 21 years old, and must display a command of the English language both orally and written.

For more information contact Sgt. Brandal at (910) 451-8524.

Religious Info

The Weekly Men's Bible Study Group meets every Thursday morning at 6 a.m., at the Mainside Protestant Chapel Annex behind the Base Chapel.

For more information, contact Chaplain James Dance at 451-3210, Maj. Jo Rozier at 451-7842, Staff Sgt. Stacey Lafferty at 450-8595 or Jim Sides at 451-5024.

Recruiting

Earn promotion points for recruiters assistance in the Northeast Region.

Recruiters assistants are needed at Recruiting Stations Albany, N.Y., Buffalo, N.Y., Harrisburg, Pa., New Jersey, New York, N.Y., Pittsburgh, Pa., Portsmouth, N.H., and Springfield, Mass.

For more information, applicants are encouraged to please contact 1st MCD at (516) 288-5656.

Marines interested in recruiters assistance in the Colorado, Wyoming, Western Nebraska or Western South Dakota areas should contact Sgt. Maj. Robert Cadle at cadlerg@marines.usmc.mil or call (303) 241-8102.





Civilian Spotlight

Sandra Rose Coleman

MCAS New River Movie Mart Sprint representative

Hometown: Killeen, Texas.

Family: Sandra is married to Gunnery Sgt. Dean Coleman, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune 2nd Maintenance Battalion electrician, and has four daughters, Jessica, 18, Elizabeth, 16, Kristan, 9, and Morgan, 2.

Military background: Sandra has never served in the military, but her husband has been a United States Marine for 19 years and is currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Time on Station: Sandra said she has been on Station for approximately four and a half years.

Best part of job: Sandra said the best part of her job is being able to provide good customer service.

Best part of working with the military: "The best part of working with the military is being able to meet new Marines everyday," said Sandra. "I enjoy helping them stay in touch and connect with their family and friends back home."

Proudest accomplishment: Sandra said her proudest accomplishment has been watching her four daugthers grow up.

Best advice received: "Don't dwell on the past because there are brighter things ahead," said Sandra. "It was said to me by my husband."

What would you want your last words to be: "I've had a happy life," said Sandra.

Since you spend a majority of the day working at the Movie Mart, what is your favorite movie: "My favorite movie is 'Dirty Dancing," explained Sandra. "Because I really like Patrick Swayze."

RotoVue

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Col. Stephen L. Forand

Executive Officer
Lt. Col. Frank H. Miner

<u>Sergeant Major</u> Sgt. Maj. Lewis Summerville <u>Public Affairs Officer</u> Capt. Stuart J. Fugler

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<u>Press Chief</u> Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale

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Station sees homecomings, deployments in support of OIF



Lance Cpl. Jonathan A. Tabb

Family and friends line the street screaming and waving to their loved ones as the bus, carrying Marine Aircraft Group-26 Marines and Sailors returning from a 12-month deployment in Iraq, arrived on Station.

'Flying Diamonds' get warm welcome

Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White correspondent

One hundred and five "Flying Diamonds" from Marine Aircraft Group-26 were welcomed home during a ceremony Feb. 9 at the Station gym.

The Marines and Sailors were deployed for approximately 12 months in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The mission of the unit was to provide close air support and aviation support to the ground forces of (II Marine Expeditionary Force)," said Col. David J. Mollahan, MAG-26 commanding officer. "MAG-26 performed very well out there and accomplished the mission."

"It feels great to be home," said Sgt. Maj. Collin A. Cotterell, MAG-26 sergeant major. "I was proud to see the squadron perform magnificently while overseas and I'm glad we could bring Marines back home to see their families."

With their mission complete and the pressures of a successful deployment alleviated, the Marines received a hero's welcome and look forward to enjoying the fruits of their labors.

"It's good to be back," said Lance Cpl. Brandon J. Medina, MAG-26 administrative clerk. "You miss a lot of things, like family, while being deployed, so I'm glad to be back and to be able to see them."

With the deployment behind them, the squadron can reflect on their accomplishments and be proud they came together well, said Mollahan.

"Our Marines performed superbly," said Mollahan. "It's a surprise when you see the young people that have entered the Marine Corps accomplish as much as our Marines did over there. It was a very difficult, high tempo environment and they performed extremely well."

'Gunrunners' head out for Iraq

Lance Cpl. Randall A. Clinton correspondent

Approximately 200 Marines and Sailors from Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269 deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom Sunday Feb. 12, as part of a continuing transfer of assets between Marine Aircraft Group-29 and MAG-26.

The "Gunrunners" are scheduled to relieve the "Warriors" of HML/A-167 for a six-month deployment. This is a return to familiar ground for HML/A-269; they are deploying to the same area that they left five



Lance Cpl. Randall A. Clinton

Sergeant Tosha M. Hardman, Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269 avionics technician, gives a farewell kiss to her boyfriend, Bradley Carter, before deploying in support of Operation Iraqi freedom, Feb. 12. months ago.

Belonging to a unit that deploys often can be stressful, but Sgt. Tosha M. Hardman, HML/A-269 avionics technician and Anchorage, Ala. native, said, "I volunteered for this job, and it's a once in a lifetime opportunity. I wouldn't have had a full career without a deployment."

Lieutenant Col. Scott S. Jensen, HML/A-269 commanding officer and Salmon, Idaho native, said the tempo for the mission will be as high as ever.

According to Jensen, the coming mission's tempo will be three times what it has been during stateside operations.

Jensen also said if you take care of the Marines' personal issues before the deployment, they will be ready and willing to go forward.

Their mission will be to support the Marine Air Ground Task Force commander by providing offensive air support, armed escort, and airborne supporting arms coordination, day and night, under all weather conditions, during expeditionary, joint, and combined operations.

For Capt. John B. Parker, HML/A-269 pilot training operator and New Brunswick, N.J. native, the mission is a lot simpler.

"My reason for being is to protect the guy on the ground," he said.

"Only four (of 23) Cobra guys haven't been there before; we are ready to go, we know the area, we know the operations," said Parker.

According to Jensen, HML/A-269 will operate out of Al Asad Air Base in the Al Anbar province of



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale

Gunnery Sgt. Sergio R. Velasquez, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26 aviation supply specialist, hugs his children after returning from Iraq Feb. 13. MASLS-26 was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

MALS-26 returns from Iraq after 12-months away

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale correspondent

Approximately 240 "Patriots" from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-26 were welcomed home with a ceremony on the flightline after spending a year deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom Feb. 13.

According to Sgt. Maj. Leroy Williams, MALS-26 sergeant major, the deployment could not have gone better and was successful on many levels.

"If ten is the best, then ten it is," he said. "These Marines were outstanding. They met and exceeded every expectation, and it was all because of in-your-face leadership. I'm so proud of them all."

Despite the long deployment, the squadron was able to sustain two to three times the normal flight operational tempo and a higher level of maintenance readiness than it experiences here at home, proving how effective the leadership is at all levels in the unit. The long deployment made the bond between the Marines of the squadron strong, and they learned to rely on one another during tough times, said Staff Sgt. Roland R. Hamilton, MALS-26 aviation information system department technician, and Shreveport, La., native.

"It was definitely strenuous at times, but we always accomplished our missions" he said. "I think everything went better than expected. The time away definitely taught us a valuable lesson about camaraderie."

Perhaps no one is more impressed by the unit's dedication and commitment than its commanding officer, Lt. Col. Carmine J. Borrelli.

"This deployment was not for the weak at heart," he said. "The Marines did a superb job. They didn't like being away from home, but they were committed to doing the best job they could. I'm glad we brought them all back; I've dreamed about this day."



Red Baron Pizza Squadron to dazzle crowd at 2006 'Sounds of Freedom' Air Show

The 2006 Sounds of Freedom Air Show, slated for May 13 and 14, will feature aerial and troop demonstrations, and static displays.

One such act will be the Red Baron Pizza Squadron.

Before World War I, spectators lined open fields to watch pilots pit their aircraft against each other in competitions of speed, altitude and daring maneuvering.

In the years following the war, aviation entered its "Golden Age," and air shows became major attractions.

Spectators gathered at the airfields to watch pilots race and break speed records.



Pilots became celebrities as the era of the "barnstormer" began. This era revealed an up-close look at aviation that energized the public.

Today, the Red Baron Pizza Squadron pays tribute to the early aviators by performing many of the same maneuvers in its vintage biplanes.

Across North America, the team performs at air shows and community events annually, drawing crowds from near and far.

The team is proud to be part of this ongoing family tradition that brings fun, excitement and adventure to young and old.

To help The Schwan Food Company expand the Red Baron brand across America, the company hired a team of pilots who began towing advertising banners behind open-cockpit biplanes, landing to introduce the great taste of the products. The grassroots marketing cam-

paign was a success.

These Stearman biplanes provided a great way to introduce Red Baron to America while establishing a unique, and highly recognizable marketing tool

In 1984, the team began participating in air shows

around the world.

Today, the squadron is the longest-running, non-military air show act in history.

The Red Baron
Pizza Squadron has been
recognized with many
industry awards including the prestigious Bill
Barber and Art Scholl
Memorial Showmanship
awards.

Editor's note: Information about the Red Baron Pizza Squadron gathered from www.redbaron.com.



May 13, 14 Air Show acts will include:

Canadian Forces Snowbirds
Army Black Daggers Parachute Team
AV-8B Harrier demonstration
MV-22 Osprey demo
Marine Air Ground Task Force demo
Red Baron Pizza Squadron
A-10 Thunderbolt demo

Rich's Incredible Pyrotechnics
Jim Leroy
Kurtis Kairys
Dale Snodgrass
Tin Sticks of Dynamite
John Curan and a C-123
Larry Kelly and a B-25

Air Show Hotline: (910) 449-4173



JTF-Horn of Africa deceased:

-1st Lt. Brandon R. Dronet -Sgt. James F. Fordyce -Lance Cpl. Samuel W. Large -Sgt. Donnie Leo F. Levens -Cpl. Matthieu Marcellus -Sgt. Jonathan E. McColley -Lance Cpl. Nicholas J. Sovie -Capt. Bryan D. Willard

NMCRS: A century of service

What is the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society?

NMCRS is a nonprofit charitable organization designed to provide financial, educational and other assistance to members of the Naval services, eligible family members and survivors, when in need.

Who can Navy-Marine Corps Relief help?

NMCRS can help active duty and retired Navy and Marine Corps personnel, eligible family members or family members of Navy and Marine Corps personnel who died on active duty or retired status.

When you or your family members require assistance -You may apply for assistance at any NMCRS activity or other relief agencies including Air Force Aid Society, Army Emergency Relief or Coast Guard Mutual Assistance.

If your immediate needs occur after hours -

Contact the nearest American Red Cross chapter to request NMCRS assistance.

When you seek assistance -

Bring your military/eligible family member identification card, leave papers, leave and earning statement (if possible), information on indebtedness and any other information which might be helpful in processing your request.

The NMCRS Fund Drive - begins March 1. Those interested in donating before March 1, or have questions about the drive, can contact Capt. Charles Hart at 449-5446, or visit www.nmcrs.org.



Instructor decorated for act of heroism

Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White correspondent

It was never unusual for a student to show up in tears to grenade pit number three. The fear of throwing one's first grenade weighs heavier on some Marines than others, with a million questions racing through their minds - will I throw it over the wall far enough? Will I keep a tight enough grip on the safety lever? Will I screw up enough that I might endanger my life or that of someone else?

Staff Sgt. James M. Peyton had seen the scenario dozens of times before and thought nothing different this time around. To him, it was the typical nervous student who just needed to be calmed down; have her mind taken off of the Marine Corps and be reassured that she could complete the task at hand.

It would only be minutes from the time Peyton first set eyes on this student that he would be staring a live grenade in the face. Both his life and another's rested in the sweaty, loosened grip of the student standing three feet in front of him. An entire lifetime summed up in four seconds.

"There's no truth to the 'life flashing before your eyes' saying when you only have four seconds to react," said Peyton. "By the time the safety lever has been released, you (need to) have already responded. Any delayed time and both you and the student are dead."

On July 17, 2004, Peyton, a Marine

Combat Training Battalion instructor and Stewartstown, Penn., native, saved the life of one of his students, and on Feb. 13, 2006, at Camp Devil Dog, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, he received a Navy and Marine Corps Medal for his quick thinking and fast reaction.

"Staff Sgt. Peyton exemplifies what a staff (noncommissioned officer) should be," said Capt. Randall K. Jones, School of Infantry East logistics officer and former MCT Fox Company commanding officer. "He is probably the finest instructor we have and has been the benchmark by which all other combat instructors have been measured. His actions went above and beyond that of most Marines."

Humble about the award and of the hero-like events of that morning, Peyton can still account perfectly the incident and the day that lead to receiving the prestigious medal.

"It was hot and humid that morning, typical weather for mid-July," Peyton explained. "I saw her coming from the grenade shack and I could tell she was nervous because she got to my pit already in tears."

Not the average appearance of every student, but nothing new to the SNCO, Peyton did the same thing he had done every time a Marine walked down upset.

"I have time to calm them down since I was always in pit three," said Peyton. "Pit one and two throw first and I have a while in between detonations to talk to them about anything other than the Marine Corps. I'd

ask where they are from, how many brothers and sisters they have, what they like to do in their free time, anything to calm them down."

Taking the student's mind off the situation proved difficult for Peyton, but through time and patience he calmed the junior devil dog down.

"She was mainly a blubbering mess (with her responses)," said Peyton. "I calmed her down and she stopped crying and I remember asking her, 'Are you ready to throw?' and she responded 'Yes."

Peyton continued to carry out the procedure commands for throwing the grenade while in the pit.

"Stand," Peyton told the student, to which she complied.

"Safety clip," Peyton continued and she removed the safety device and repeated the order.

Giving the third to last command, Peyton told the student, "twist, pull pin," and she refused.

"That's when I put my hands over her hands and I tried to talk to her some more," said Peyton. "I told her that I wasn't going to mess around with her and that as soon as

I told her to remove the safety pin, I was going to tell her to prepare to throw and she was going to throw it and it was going to get over the wall and we were all going to go on to tomorrow's training."



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

Peyton receives a Navy and Marine Corps Medal from Lt. Col. Kevin T. Wooley, MCT commanding officer.

Peyton asked the Marine if she was ready to go, to which she replied, "Yes." The veteran instructor then released his grip on the student's hands and repeated the

See **GRENADE** on page 10



ROTO VIEW

If you could ask the Commandant one question, what would it be?



"Where is the Marine Corps heading?"

Lance Cpl. Jonathan A. Riley,
Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-29,
aircraft electrical/instrument/flight control systems technician.



"What new gear is on the way for the Marines?"

Lance Cpl. Eric C. McGhee, 1st Battalion 6th Marines, machine gunner.



"What incentives are planned for Marines dealing with multiple deployments in their first contract?"

Staff Sgt. Brian A. Maltez, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, future operations chief.

GRENADE, from page 8

order, "twist, pull pin."

The young Marine carried out the order, only to be frozen by the next command, "prepare to throw."

I repeated the order three times and she wouldn't comply," Peyton recalled. "And then she released the grip of the safety lever and the grenade started cooking off. I told her one more time 'throw it,' but she wouldn't release the grenade so I grabbed it, threw it over the top of my head, grabbed her and took her for a free ride to the ground."

Peyton shielded the student's body until he heard the grenade detonate. Once he knew that both he and the student were safe, he got up and walked away.

"I remember that I really wanted a cigarette," Peyton joked. "But I also remember that that was really close and maybe I should have taken a little more time with her, but she assured me three separate times that she was fine. I still 'what if' myself all the time. What if I would have waited? What if I would have let pit four go? What if

we just would have said, 'she can't throw today.'?"

Peyton, a two and a half-year veteran MCT instructor and fleet infantry unit leader - 0369 - is currently an instructor trainer and has not returned to the grenade pits for several months, but he did not let the experience change his mentality as an instructor.

"I prefer to be in the pits," Peyton explained. "I want to go back; I think it's exciting."

An excitement that came close to ending his own life and another's. Peyton believes that it wasn't his time, though, and that if God wanted him, he'd be with Him already. When Peyton's time does come, however, he firmly believes where his soul will be sent.

"When I die I think I'm going to hell," said Peyton. "I think I'm going there just to kill the devil and that will be my final mission in life. Then I think I'm going to go up to heaven and sit around the table with all my dead relatives and kick back and have a few beers."

Relieved that this final mission hasn't been carried out, the Marine's

family is proud of his accomplishments.

"Growing up, he always had a special quality about him," said Susan Peyton, the mother of the honored Marine. "I knew, and saw, that he was going to do great things with his life and I'm very proud of him."

Reflecting on the experience, Peyton swears that he will never forget the four seconds that almost ended his life.

"There is still too much that I have to do for it to end that way," said Peyton. "I knew I had to save (the student's) life, I had to see my wife again, had to see my family; I have too much left to accomplish and four seconds wasn't going to take it all away."



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

Peyton, his wife Mindy and his two children pose for a family photo after his award ceremony Feb. 13.



MAG-26 chaplain prepares Marines for 'return and reunion'

Lance Cpl. Randall A. Clinton correspondent

Flags are flying, yellow ribbons hanging from every post; banners and posters dot the landscape. The river of decorations feed into a sea of joyful family members roaring in celebration of their loved ones return from a long deployment.

But there's more than meets the eye to make the Marine Aircraft Group-26 homecoming successful

The command and chaplains for MAG-26 have prepared their Marines for a successful return and reunion with their loved ones through a series of briefs before

and after their return.

The briefs, given by the chaplain, administration, legal, medical and the MAG-26 command, help the Marines mentally prepare for the changes associated with returning home.

The chaplain offers three briefs before the Marines return including warrior transition, return and reunion, and suicide prevention. These briefs cover finances, children, intimacy, communication, tips on how to step back into relationships after a deployment, and suicide awareness.

"I thought it was very good information. It kept the Marines informed about what it was going to take to get back to normal," said Sgt. Martice Q. Burks, MAG-26

supply administration and operations clerk and Warner Robins, Ga. native.

The Marines had only one final brief to attend before being released for liberty, "Returning plus one."

The "R+1" brief focuses on family issues, marriage, driving, drinking, anger management, operational risk management, and safety, said Navy Lt. David D. Rozanek, MAG-26 chaplain.

"I didn't realize how different it would be coming back, until last night and (I) was just like, 'wow, this is weird'," said Petty Officer Third Class Elizabeth E. Moses, MAG-26 corpsman and a Blacksburg, Va. native.

MAG-26 helps the returning

Marines transition back into their lives by focusing on both the deployed troops and their loved ones left behind.

Remember the house has been operating with established roles for six months to a year, it will take time to change, Rozanek explained.

"It's common for families to take six to 12 weeks to reestablish roles and become normal again," he said.

The chaplain also has specific advice for family members welcoming back Marines.

"Be considerate, (your Marine) will be exhausted, tired, thirsty, and hungry," said Rozanek. Your returning Marine may want quiet time to relax, not big parties.

Equipment reimbursement

The Department of Defense announced the revision of a memorandum on the policy and procedures for the reimbursement of privately purchased protective equipment for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Feb. 14.

The new memo, which was signed Feb. 10 by David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, incorporates the original guidance published on Oct. 4, 2005, expands the list of reimbursable equipment, and extends the eligible purchase period for reimbursement.

The eligible purchase period is now Sept. 11, 2001, through April 1, 2006, as required by the fiscal 2006 National Defense Authorization Act.

The previous memo only covered purchases from Sept. 11, 2001, to July 31, 2004.

To be reimbursed for equipment, servicemembers must complete DD Form 2902, "Claim for Reimbursement for Privately Purchased Protective, Safety or Health Equipment used in Combat."

This form must be submitted to the servicemember's chain of command or, for former members, to an authorizing official designated by their former service at an address on the form. All claims must be submitted by Oct. 3, 2006.

The original memo states that the military will reimburse servicemembers for the cost, including shipping, of any protective, safety or health equipment that was purchased by the member or by another person on behalf of the member for the member's personal use during deployment.

To be eligible for reimbursement, the equipment must be on the approved list of shortage equipment, and the member must not have been issued equivalent government-provided equipment before they engaged in imminent danger or hostile fire operations, the original memo states.

Reimbursement for any one item is limited to \$1,100, and any equipment that servicemembers are reimbursed for becomes the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in to the unit logistics officer.

The full reimbursable equipment list now includes complete ballistic vests, most component parts of ballistic vests including side-plate body armor, Kevlar helmets, ballistic eye protection, hydration systems, gloves, knee pads, elbow pads, bed insect netting, insect repellant and reflective vests.



Station celebrates Black History Month

Lance Cpl. Randall A. Clinton correspondent

"If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, it stands in danger of being exterminated."

The words of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Father of Black History Month, ring true as today as they did almost a hundred years ago when he said them.

The Black History Month celebration began from the work of Woodson, a Harvard scholar, frustrated by the lack of representation of blacks in history books.

This month Marines take time to reflect not only on blacks who helped forge America, but also those who left their deeds burned into the history of the Corps.

The Marines here celebrate Black History Month, hallmarked by a luncheon at the Officers' Club Feb. 16.

"It's important to take the time to realize the pioneers that brought us where we are today," said Sgt. Syreeta I. Ortiz, MALS-26 calibration technician and equal opportunity representative.

This month is for Marines like Howard P. Perry, who broke a 167year-old barrier by enlisting in the Marine Corps June, 1, 1942.

Staff Sgt. Timerlate Kirven and Cpl. Samuel J. Love, Sr., while serving with the 2nd Marine Division in 1944, became the first black Marines decorated for actions in combat when they received Purple Hearts for wounds recieved at the Battle of Saipan.

Marines remember the approximate 20,000 black Marines who trained at the segregated Montford Point (now Camp Johnson). They went on to serve in the 51st and



Lance Cpl. Randall A. Clinton

Doctor Roosevelt Baxter Jr., retired master gunnery sergeant, speaks about Black History Month at a luncheon at the Officers' Club Feb. 16.

52nd Defense Battalions, the only two black combat units in the Marine Corps during World War II.

Charles F. Anderson was the first black to become a Marine Corps sergeant major, and James E. Johnson became the first black warrant officer both in 1944.

"Based on the fact that we are a fighting force, I think it brings up camaraderie because we learn about others and promote unity," said Ortiz, a Philadelphia, Pa. native.

In the early 1900's, Woodson found something astonishing in his research on American history text-books.

Black Americans were largely ignored, referred to only by the low social position they held at that time.

For Woodson, the son of two former slaves, this disturbing discovery pushed him to write black

Americans into the nation's history where they belonged.

By 1916, Woodson had established the Journal of Negro History. Ten years later, he launched "Negro History Week," a week dedicated to bringing attention to the contribution of black people throughout history.

Woodson chose February to host "Negro History Week," which later became Black History Month.

Other important dates in February include the birth of W. E. B. DuBois, the founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1868. In 1870, congress passed the 15th Amendment, giving blacks the right to vote and the first black senator, Hiram R. Revels, took his oath of office. The NAACP was formed in 1909 by blacks and whites in New York.

Marines save a life

Cpl. Ted A. MacDonald correspondent

Two Marines from Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron-302 got a chance to use some of the first aid skills they learned in boot camp to save a young man's life, Jan. 14.

Marine Corporals David R. Salmonsen and David K. Fontenot were in Greenville S.C. on that rainy evening, not to be heroes, just to enjoy a little rest and relaxation. They got more than they bargained for.

Salmonsen and Fontenot were in a taxi waiting to be transported to their hotel when they noticed a group of people standing around a prone figure near the sidewalk. The two Marines jumped out of the taxi to render assistance.

"Everybody was kind of standing around, confused," Fontenot said.

One of the bystanders told them that the injured man had been exiting his friend's car when another vehicle struck him and sped off.

"The man was unconscious and bleeding from the back, it

also appeared that one of his arms was seriously injured, it looked nearly amputated," Salmonsen said. "We basically began to run through the lifesaving steps we learned in boot camp."

They attempted to stop the bleeding with direct pressure but when that didn't work, the Marines took the next step. "Fontenot took off his belt and I made the tourniquet and the flow of blood began to slacken. The guy started shaking real bad so we tried to treat him for shock."

As Fontenot kept the man's face and airways clear of blood, Salmonsen asked the bystanders for clothes to cover the man. After about 10 minutes of tending to the injured man, emergency medical technicians arrived on the scene and took over.

The two Marines, who have been close friends for the past two and a half years, were in the right place at the right time.

According to the hospital staff, if the man's loss of blood had not been stopped in a timely manner he would almost certainly have died



(Above) Two MV-22 Ospreys taxi the New River flightline in preparation for an aerial demonstration held by Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 July 13, marking the end of Operational Evaluation. The day gave several local and national media outlets the opportunity to see the newest addition to the Corps. (Right) Marines from Marine Aircraft Group-29 and the future Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-263 conducted an exercise Jan. 5 at their squadron hangar to discover how much space the MV-22 Osprey would take up once put inside the hangar, which will be the future home of the tiltrotor squadron this spring.

A look at the Osprey program

Compiled by Lance Cpl. Jonathan A. Tabb correspondent

Helicopter aviation provided valuable support for Marines during the Korean War with the development of the Vertical Envelopment Doctrine and has continued to assist in every major conflict since.

Despite all the advantages of vertical envelopment, one constant disadvantage is speed.

In 1950, the Army and the Air Force announced a tiltrotor design to help tackle the speed issue.

The first aircraft built was Bell Helicopter's XV-3. The XV-3 was grounded in 1962 due to a prop-

rotor/pylon instability problem. It was used again in 1965 in NASA's Ames Research Center wind tunnel, in California.

After taking further damage, the XV-3 was finally discarded. In 1976, Bell released its second tiltrotor model: the XV-15.

The success of the XV-15 led to the creation of the most extensive tiltrotor program supported by the US government – The V-22.

In 1982 Bell and Boeing Vertol sign a teaming agreement to participate in JVX program, later to become the V-22 pro-

March 1989 marks the first flight of the V-22. After two mishaps in the year 2000 due to hydraulic line failure and "Vortex Ring State" – a phenomenon experienced

by all helicopters, hydraulic lines were re-routed to improve line clearance and inspection, and tests proved the Osprey less vulnerable to "VRS" than other helos.

Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 stood up in November 2003 and Marine Medium Tiltrotor Training Squadron-204 was added to New River's list of operational squadrons in January 2005.

Since the two mishaps in 2000, the MV-22 has been incident free.

The first fully operational Osprey squadron, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-263 is slated to stand up March 3 in the squadron's hangar.

For information concerning the VMM-263 stand up, please contact the Media and Community Relations office at 449-5431 or 5432 or e-mail Cpl. Jeffrey A. Everitt at jeffrey.everitt@usmc.mil

Editor's note: Historical information provided by Naval Air Systems Command Public Affairs.



Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer



(Above) A flock of 16 MV-22 Ospreys from Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 launch from the flightline, signaling the beginning of their historic flight above the Station Aug. 12, 2005. The flight was a training opportunity that gave the "Argonauts" a chance to demonstrate the entire squadron's technical proficiency. (Right) Flight simulators, like the one shown here for the MV-22 Osprey, save time, fuel and aircraft use. Osprey program managers project that using simulators to complete up to 75 percent of initial-level training at the Fleet Replacement Squadron could also reduce the number of MV-22 marked for training from 40 to 20.



AUG. 1950 U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force nounce a tiltrotor design competition - Bell Helicopter and Transcendental Aircraft submit bids.

APR. 1972

NASA and U.S. Army announce competition to design a tiltrotor aircraft -Bell and Boeing Vertol submit bids.

JUNE 1982

Bell and Boeing Vertol sign teaming agreement to participate in JVX program (later to become the V-22).

1980

NOV. 2003

Marine Tiltrotor Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 stands up.

2000

1950 1955

FEB. 1955

First XV-3 is rolled out.

1960

1965 1970

OCT. 1976

Bell rolls out ship#1 XV-15.

AUG. 1984 Naval Air Systems Command awards contract for long lead detail design and tooling for JVX.

MARCH 1989

First flight of V-22.

1990

APRIL 1999

1995

First flight of first production V-22 (ship #11).

MARCH 2006 irst fully operational Osprey squadron, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-263 slated to stand up.

2005

2010







V-22/1982 XV-15/1976



24th MEU Marines ride in beach rodeo

Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. -- To be considered one of the best rodeo riders in the world, you've got to stay in the saddle for at least eight seconds. To rope an assault vehicle to a Landing Craft Air Cushioned, or LCAC, the best drivers in the Corps need to be able to gripe and un-gripe their vehicles in less than eight minutes. Failure to do either results in the same punishment – you get the horns.

To ensure that Marines and Sailors with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit avoid that inglorious fate, vehicle operators involved in the Expeditionary Strike Group/MEU Integration Training participated in driver's improvement training aboard the USS Iwo Jima and at Onslow Beach here Feb. 8-10.

The primary objective of the course is to give assault vehicle drivers a chance to drive aboard ships, learn basic interaction with the LCAC, and develop a basic understanding of shipboard commands and hand signals, said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class David Weyandt, a course instructor and Assault Craft Unit 4 loadmaster stationed at Naval Base Little Creek, Va.

"It's all about safety," said Weyandt.
"The Marines are doing a great job and they've learned a lot since the first time we loaded on the ship."

Honing the skills necessary to quickly embark and debark the ships and landing craft

is key to mission planning and correctly calculating the time needed to move personnel and equipment to different locations, said Staff Sgt. Robert D. Smith, a section leader with Weapons Co., Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment.

"When we load, the standard is to make sure we gripe and un-gripe the vehicles to the deck in under eight minutes," said Smith. "So far we've beaten every time. I've been very happy with the Marine's performance."

According to Smith, the Marines averaged less than four minutes to tie down each vehicle with a two-man crew and close to two minutes per vehicle with a four-man crew. Marines trained in darkness and were able to load nine vehicles on the LCAC in approximately 15 minutes, a movement that has, according to Smith, become "second nature."

In addition to the embark/debark training, Marines were able to train for kill-zone recoveries and for steering through water, a situation that often arises during LCAC operations, said Staff Sgt. Charles P. Berglund, Motor Transport Operations Chief for 1/8.

"With the new armor, everything is completely different," explained Berglund. "The vehicles handle different in the water, and the Marines need to learn that the vehicles can handle and are equipped for this kind of driving."

Still, the key lesson imparted to the Marines to keep them in the saddle and in the fight was the importance of safety and experience, said Sgt. Titus L. Graham, a field radio

operator with the S-6 radio section and a class participant.

"The class is important so Marines can have the experience to do the job right in real-time operations," said Graham. "When we do it for real, we'll all be a lot safer. We keep the Marines safe and we keep the vehicles from being damaged — it's as simple as that."

The 24th MEU is composed of its Command Element; Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment; Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 365 (Reinforced); and MEU Service Support Group

The 24th MEU is set to participate in its premier pre-deployment training event later this month, a two-week Training in an Urban Environment exercise, or TRUEX, in Hampton Roads, Va. The MEU is scheduled to deploy this spring to the European and Central Command theaters of operations.



Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola

A Landing Craft Air Cushioned enters into the well deck of the USS Iwo Jima during driver's improvement training held during Expeditionary Strike Group/MEU Integration Training Feb. 8. The training sought to hone Marine's skills in shipboard driving, driver safety, and LCAC operations.

Marines send 98 pounds of steel downrange



Lance Cpl. John S. Rafoss

HIJUDAI TRAINING AREA, Japan -- Marines from Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division fire a M198 howitzer downrange during an Artillery Training Program at Hijudai training area, Jan. 30. During the exercise, the Marines were given 600 HE rounds to shoot between three M198 Howitzers.



Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola

A convoy of vehicles prepares to drive through the surf at Onslow Beach aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., during driver's improvement training held during Expeditionary Strike Group/MEU Integration Training Feb. 9. The training was held to help drivers's familiarize themselves with how the vehicle handles when driving through water.



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SHOPPETS

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- * Caller never reveals his/her identidy.
- * Pays CASH rewards up to \$2,500.00.
- * Information must lead to arrest and indictment.
- * Reward is collected through code system.



Semper Fitness Time is running out!

Verna Richardson MCCS personal trainer

American's rate of inactivity is also contributing to our nation's obesity problem. Let's take a look at how your body spends calories and what you can do to rev things up and keep progressing toward your weight release goal.

Everyday, your body spends energy, or calories, to support life-sustaining processes, such as keeping your brain switched on and the basic maintenance work going on inside each of your cells.

This calorie burning is referred to as the basal metabolic rate (BMR). Most people burn about 800 to 2,000 calories daily to support (BMR).

Inactivity, contributing to the fact that most people stop by fast food restaurants more often, they aren't even parking and walking in because everyone including the dry cleaners have a drive through window. These days you can go to any mall, any day of the week and watch people snack on high calorie foods, like wise, people will often hunt for close up spots in the parking lot so they can aboid walking too far.

Weight gain occurs when calories in exceed calories out. Consuming 200 additional calories a day or decreasing physical activity by 200 calories a day can result in a 20 pound weight gain at the end of the year. On a daily basis, these amounts are so minor that people don't even realize they are gaining weight, giving rise to the term "creeping obesity." By incorporating physical activity as often as possible throughout the day and decreasing overall caloric intake, weight release can be achieved a little at a time.

Today, into the second month of the new year, millions of Americans still resolve to releasing weight, but by tomorrow or next week or maybe next month, most of them will give up trying. Few will have released weight and even fewer will sustain that weight release.

Emphasizing the importance of incorporating exercise into your life on a regular basis will allow you to continue your quest for weight release and maintain what you have released.

Make sure you exercise every chance you get.

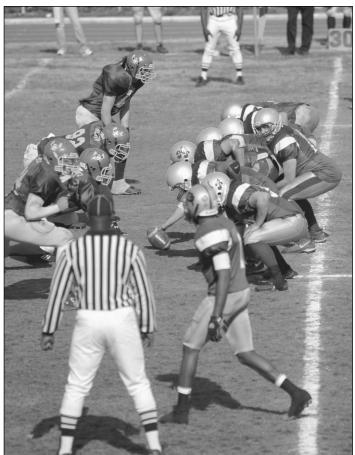
Once you get in the habit of exercising, it will seem like a second nature and you won't have to think twice about it.

I encourage regular exercise and incorporate more natural foods into your program, for instance whole grains, lean protein, fruits, vegetables and any healthy fats.

Promote health as a first priority, and everything else will follow suit.

Please feel free to call building AS-4000 at 449-5854 or AS-204 at 449-5267 and make your appointment with the personal trainers aboard Marine Corps Air Station New River.

4th and goal: New River's final play toward title



Master Sgt. Phil A. Mehringer

Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White correspondent

Steamrollers, conquerors, hard-chargers, dominators, powerhouses, devastators, widow-makers, bonecrushers; all words to describe the New River football team that has man-handled so many opposing forces this past season, but none as important as the one word that currently eludes them – champions.

New River came one step closer to claiming this top position Feb. 8, as they put a pounding on Headquarters Battalion in the Gold Conference title match, 28-0.

"They played us earlier and we beat them up pretty bad then too," said Anthony Cremeans, New River head coach. "I'd scouted them out, so we knew what to look for and how to stop them"

Throughout the year, New River punished opposing offenses, allowing an average of only 2.1 points a game, in an attempt to make up for last year's shortened post season.

"We are fighting back to earn respect back for the Air Station," said Cremeans. "They say we can't win when it counts; well, it has counted the past two games and we won both of those."

Last year, New River went undefeated throughout the regular season, but was eliminated early in the play-

"We run our team a little different this year; we focus more on the needs of the individual games and less on the structure of our team," said Cremeans. "When you prepare to fight an individual, you focus on their strengths and weaknesses and if you win all those little battles, it's impossible to lose the war."

New River, 7-1, played MCAS Cherry Point, also 7-1, for the championship title at Liversedge Field, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Feb. 17.

New River lost the game, 26-6, after a series of costly turnovers.



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

(Top) New River squares up against Cherry Point in the championship game Feb. 17. (Above) Michael Robinson, HQ Bn. quarterback, is chased by New River player Chad Millice. (Right) Coach Cremean's analyzes the game.



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

<u>Co-Ed</u> <u>Volleyball</u>

Individuals interested in participating/coaching in the upcoming Camp Lejeune Co-Ed Volleyball League should contact the Marine Corps Community Services Athletic Director at 449-5609 or 449-6410.

Women s Basketball

Women interested in applying for the 2006 Marine
Corps Women's Basketball
Trial Camp should contact
the Marine Corps
Community Services athletic director at 449-5609 or
449-6410.

Men s Basketball

There will be a intramural basketball meeting Feb. 28 at the Marine Corps Community Service (Bldg. AS-208) Conference Room at 12 p.m. For more contact Nancy Haigh-Stankowski at 449-5609.





Thorn retires after decorated career



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

Colonel Stephen L. Forand, Station commanding officer (left), and Master Sgt. John J. Thorn, Anti-Terrorism Force Protection specialist, pose for a photo after Thorn's retirement ceremony. Thorn retired after 22 and a half years of service.

ROTOVUE

Do not be satisfied with an unexamined life



Cmdr. William G. Waun Station chaplain

Viruses are technically nonliving entities that infect and potentially destroy living organisms. Unable to reproduce, a bacteriophage, for example, may inject its DNA

into the nucleus of a living cell, whereby the living cell is fooled into substituting the viral DNA, its code of life, for the cell's own DNA, and thus ends up replicating more viruses rather than more of its own living cells.

Once the living cell is full of these new viruses, it is torn open and dies, releasing more viruses into the organism to attack more healthy cells.

Computer technology has taken the concept of the virus from biology to name those vicious programs that are aimed at destroying a computer. Such a notion is perhaps applicable to other areas of life, including one's spiritual life.

The modern philosophy of postmodernism and its resultant concept of the "relativity of truth" is a cruel and ferocious virus infecting one's spirituality. The problem is simply that this mindset leads people to accept a lie rather than the truth, and the results can be deadly.

First, it should be noticed that the argument for the relativity of truth is inconsistent and thus self-destructive. The argument goes something like this: No truth is absolute, and that is absolutely true. The problem with this should be self-evident.

Second, note that the definition of truth is a simple and easy matter. Truth is simply that which corresponds with reality, that which is real. However, as philosopher Dr. Peter Kreeft points out, even though the definition of truth is easy, discovering truth is a bit more difficult, and conforming one's life to the truth once it is discovered is hardest of all.

Third, belief, no matter how sincere or how fervent, neither creates nor destroys the truth. Reality stands regardless of one's belief. A strong, fervent, sincere belief in little green men running around on Mars does not create Martians!

Reality, i.e., truth, stands apart from one's belief. Thus, it follows that it is not belief that needs to be examined, but rather the object of one's belief.

Again, to quote Peter Kreeft, the one and only reason for ever believing something is because it is true. A person is a fool to believe something that is not true, and he is also a fool for not believing something that is true. Thus, before you decide to believe something, examine the evidence for its truth and reality. Ask, "Where's the beef?" Why do you believe something is true and real?

Finally, realize that the significance of the objects of faith come in various degrees. It doesn't matter very much whether one believes in Santa Claus or not. This is a quaint belief for children.

However, as we mature and examine the evidence for the reality of Santa Claus, we discover that it is not worthy of belief. However,

if someone gives you a piece of cake that may be laced with cyanide, it is significant to ascertain whether or not that is true. If it does, in fact, contain cyanide, one's belief that it is harmless is ludicrous; that belief will cost him his life.

Having said all of this, it becomes important to make an application to religion. Not all religions are the same, because they all have different doctrines and claim different things to be true and real.

Furthermore, some religions make claims that relate to one's eternal existence, that some will spend eternity in a wonderful, blissful heaven while others will spend eternity is the pains of a place called hell.

Religions also make claims to know how one gets to heaven or how one ends up in hell. Merely believing that these places exist or do not exist, or believing how one gains heaven or hell, will not affect the reality of these places or the criteria for entry. One needs to examine the evidence for their reality. And, since nothing can honestly be more important that one's eternal well-being, I would think that this is something that one would want to investigate with some rigor and energy! What is the evidence? Upon what authority is it based?

This postmodern concept of the relativity of truth breeds the virus of indifference that gives birth to complacency, i.e., with being satisfied with living an unexamined life. This virus produces spiritual death. Examine reality and believe the truth! Your Chaplains stand ready to guide you on this most important journey.

Safety Snippets:

"Move over law"

Thirty percent of all crashes occur as the result of another crash. Giving emergency responders plenty of room and clearing the road in the wake of a crash reduces the chance that another fender-bender will occur.

The North Carolina "Move over law" deals with the movement of vehicles and motor vehicle safety. This law became effective on Jan. 1, 2002 and focuses on the safety of motorists, law enforcement and other emergency responders stopped along the shoulder.

The law reads:

When an authorized emergency vehicle is parked or standing within 12 feet of a roadway, the driver of every other approaching vehicle shall, as soon as it is safe and when not otherwise directed by an individual lawfully directing traffic, do one of the following:

Move the vehicle into a lane that is not the lane nearest the parked or standing authorized emergency vehicle and continue traveling in that lane until safely clear of the emergency vehicle. This applies only if the roadway has at least two lanes for traffic proceeding in the direction of the approaching vehicle and if the approaching vehicle may change lanes safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

Slow the vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions, and operate the vehicle at a reduced speed until completely past the emergency vehicle. This applies only if the roadway has only one lane for traffic proceeding in the direction of the approaching vehicle or if the approaching vehicle may not change lanes safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

Failure to abide by the "Move over law" could result in a \$25 fine plus an estimated \$110 in court costs.

Memorial Chapel services



Protestant 11 a.m.

For more information, call the Memorial Chapel at 449-6801.



In Memoriam Cpl. Matthew J. Rajca



Jan. 11, 1983 - Feb. 9, 2006

In Memoriam Karissa Green



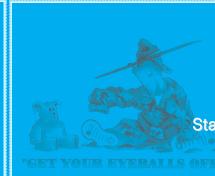
July 28, 2000 - Feb. 3, 2006





Welcome to New River!

Congratulations!
Cpl. Aaron & Jessica Warner
on their new devil pup
Curtis James
Jan. 26, 2006



Welcome to New River!

Congratulations!
Staff Sgt. William & Shawna Knapp
on their new devil pup
Shaun William
Jan. 28, 2006



Welcome to New River!

Congratulations!
Cpl. Tyvon & Jamallia Petway
on their new devil pup
Triniti J'Nae
Jan. 29, 2006



Welcome to New River!

Congratulations!
Staff Sgt. Allie & Melissa Potter, Jr.
on their new devil pup
Nolan Christopher
Jan. 29, 2006



Station Theater Movies

Feb. 22 - March 8Wed. Feb. 229 a.m.
7 p.m.Memoirs of a Geisha
Memoirs of a Geisha
Memoirs of a Geisha
Fun with DickPG-13
PG-13
PG-13

VVCU. 1 CD. ZZ	Jaiii.	Monions of a dolona	1 0 10
	7 p.m.	Memoirs of a Geisha	PG-13
Fri. Feb. 24	7 p.m.	Fun with Dick	
	•	and Jane	PG-13
	9:30 p.m.	The Family Stone	PG-13
Sat. Feb. 25	7 p.m.	The Family Stone	PG-13
	9:30 p.m.	Memoirs of a Geisha	PG-13
Sun. Feb. 26	3 p.m.	The Producers	PG-13
	6 p.m.	Rumor Has It	PG-13
Mon. Feb. 27	7 p.m.	The Producers	PG-13
Wed. March 1	9 a.m.	The Family Stone	PG-13
	7 p.m.	The Family Stone	PG-13
Fri. March 3	7 p.m.	Hoodwinked	PG
	9:30 p.m.	The Producers	PG-13
Sat. March 4	7 p.m.	Hoodwinked	PG
	9:30 p.m.	Rumor Has It	PG-13
Sun. March 5	3 p.m.	Hoodwinked	PG
	6 p.m.	Rumor Has It	PG-13
Mon. March 6	7 p.m.	The Ringer	PG-13
Wed. March 8	9 a.m.	The Producers	PG-13
	7 p.m.	Munich	R



The theater snack bar opens 30 minutes before the first movie and closes 45 minutes after the last movie begins. Movies and times are subject to

For more information, call the Station Theater at 449-6292 or 449-6528.



A \$1 admission fee is charged for ages seven and above.